

EPA-CID Region 10 Case Opening Justification for SoloPower

In October 2018, OR DEQ notified EPA-CID that SoloPower Systems Inc. (SoloPower) had abandoned large quantities of hazardous waste, creating an Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP) Treatment Storage Disposal (TSD) facility. SoloPower was a start-up using grant money from Federal, State, and County sources to get into the solar panel industry. SoloPower plated copper, indium, gallium, and selenium to produce a flexible, thin-film backing solar panel. SoloPower leased a building owned by LIT Industrial, located at 6308 N. Marine Dr. Portland, OR. The facility operated under a sanitary sewer pre-treatment permit overseen by the City of Portland Bureau of Environmental Services (BES). The facility reported to OR DEQ as a large quantity generator (LQG) of hazardous waste beginning in 2011. In December 2015, OR DEQ conducted an inspection at SoloPower and cited them for exceeding the 90-day storage limit of hazardous waste.

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

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This lead has been discussed with EPA-CID R10 managers, who approve of the case opening. This lead has yet to be discussed with an EPA Region 10 Regional Criminal Enforcement Counsel (RCEC).